

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 114760

FOR USDEL LOS

FOLLOWING REPEAT SAO PAULO 1325 ACTION STATE INFO BRASILIA RIO
DE JANEIRO MAY 4.

QUOTE O N F I D E N T I A L SAO PAULO 1325

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP

SUBJ: TRAVEL OF AMBASSADOR ELLIOT L. RICHARDSON

1. THE SAO PAULO FEDERATION OF COMMERCE HAS ADVISED ME THAT
AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON HAS ACCEPTED INVITATION OF FEDERATION
PRESIDENT JOSE PAPA JUNIOR TO VISIT BRAZIL JUNE 12-19. ACCORDING
TO THE FEDERATION, INVITATION RESULTS FROM PAP'S PREVIOUS MEETING
WITH AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON IN NEW YORK AND THAT WHILE THE
LATTER'S VISIT IS OF A "SOCIAL" NATURE, HE IS
IS EXPECTED TO ADDRESS FEDERATION AND MEET WITH MINISTERS AND
OTHER GOB OFFICIALS IN BRASILIA. EMBASSY BRASILIA REPORTS IT
HAS NO INFORMATION ON THE PROPOSED VISIT.

2. WE WELCOME THE AMBASSADOR'S VISIT TO SAO PAULO AND I HOPE
HE WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF
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PAGE 02 STATE 114760

COMMERCE, THE LARGEST OVERSEAS AMERICAN CHAMBER AND AN IMPORTANT
FORUM, EVEN THOUGH MANY AMERICANS ARE AWAY AFTER JUNE 10.
DEPARTMENT IS REQUESTED TO CONFIRM THE AMBASSADOR'S TRAVEL PLANS
AND ADVISE IF HE WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR LUNCHEON MEETING WITH
AMERICAN CHAMBER. NO FIRM DATE CAN BE SUGGESTED NOW BECAUSE
PRINCIPAL CHAMBER OFFICERS ARE TRAVELING.

3. COMMENT: IF CONGEN HAD BEEN CONSULTED BEFORE THE INVITATION WAS ACCEPTED, I WOULD HAVE RECOMMENDED AGAINST JOSE PAPA'S SPONSORSHIP OF THE AMBASSADOR'S VISIT IN VIEW OF A) THE PENDING COURT CASE AGAINST JOSE PAPA IN RIO DE JANEIRO FOR ALLEGED IMPROPER ADVANCES AT NIGHT TO THE DAUGHTER OF A PROMINENT RIO CITIZEN ON BOARD AN AIRPLANE RETURNING FROM EUROPE WHEN PAPA WAS ALLEGEDLY UNDER THE INFLUENCE, B) JOSE PAPA'S ROLE IN THE LATE NIGHT SCANDAL AT A PROMINENT SAO PAULO BANKER'S HOUSE WHICH LED TO THE DISMISSAL OF MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY SEVERO GOMES LAST YEAR, AND C) PAPA IS WIDELY REGARDED AMONG LEADING SAO PAULO INDUSTRIALISTS AND BANKERS AS A LAUGHING STOCK AND OPPORTUNISTIC PSEUDO-POLITICIAN WHO SHIFTS WHEN EVERY BREEZE AND IS CURRENTLY TRYING TO INGRATIATE HIMSELF WITH GOVERNOR-DESIGNATE LAUDO NATEL BY GIVING HIM FREE OFFICE SPACE AT THE FEDERATION OF COMMERCE. IN SHORT, THE PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERATION OF COMMERCE AND THE MAN OF THE YEAR OF THE BRAZILIAN-AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF NEW YORK CITY WOULD NOT MAKE EVERYONE'S LIST OF DISTINGUISHED BRAZILIAN CLIAN CITIZENS. CHAPIN UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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